

More On

The Global Newspaper Edited and Published in Paris

Herald INTERNATIONAL Tribune

London, Tuesday, January 12, 1993

No. 34,173 2/93 LONDON, TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1993 ESTABLISHED 1887

British Airways Tells Virgin Atlantic: 'Sorry'

By Erik Ipsen International Herald Tribune LONDON — In the front row of Court 13 in London's High Court building, Richard Branson sat beaming on Monday afternoon.

Mr. Branson had outlined Virgin's case for libel against BA and libelized the upstart airline's founder as a man with an international reputation in the field of human endeavor.

Ever keen to seize his opportunity, Mr. Branson said in his statement: "Although Virgin Atlantic is a small independent airline, our competitive threat obviously proved too much for certain people at British Airways."



Richard Branson savoring victory in his libel suit against British Airways.

Security Council Debates Iraq Raids

Butros Ghali Urges a 'Stiff' Response, But Only a Condemnation Is in Sight

UNITED NATIONS, New York — The Security Council on Monday debated a statement condemning Iraq's border incursions and seizure of weapons in Kuwait, Baghdad's latest violation of the Gulf War cease-fire.

Iraqi military flights to protect rebel Shiite Muslims. Iraq also banned UN flights to and over Iraq, hampering a UN effort to dismantle Mr. Saddam's stocks and production of chemical, nuclear and biological weapons.

UN Leader Calls German Military Role a 'Must'

By Marc Fisher Washington Post Service BERLIN — Frustrated by Germany's long debate over its future military role, the secretary-general of the United Nations, Butros Butros Ghali, dropped diplomatic niceties on Monday and told officials here that the world needed "Germany's full participation" in UN military operations.



Helmut Kohl and Butros Butros Ghali reviewing a guard of honor on Monday before their talks at the chancellery in Bonn.

Representatives of the United States, Russia, France and Britain already had warned Iraq about the incursions and weapons seizures in a meeting with Iraq's ambassador to the United Nations on Sunday, diplomatic sources said.

Abdel Latif Kabaj, a UN spokesman in Kuwait, said 120 unarmored Iraqis on Monday crossed the new border and went to a former Iraqi naval base, 400 yards inside Kuwait. They emptied or removed warehouses, water tanks and electrical wires, he said.

But in recent months, as German political parties disagreed over the reunified country's military doctrine, Mr. Kohl reversed himself, saying the constitution did allow Germany to join operations staged by its allies or the United Nations.

Beijing Is Rejecting 'Rational Dialogue,' Patten Says

By Michael Richardson International Herald Tribune HONG KONG — In the midst of a bruising battle with China that is undermining confidence in Hong Kong's vibrant economy, Chris Patten, the governor of the British colony, said Monday that he could not understand why Beijing took such strong exception to his "very modest" proposals for democratic reform.

Mr. Patten insisted that he was acting with "honor" to protect the interests of Hong Kong. But he said he was faced with "torrents of rhetoric from the north" that were eroding public support for the reform plan.

Mr. Patten said, however, that despite this opposition, he would present his plan on Tuesday in legislative form to Hong Kong's Executive Council, an advisory cabinet to the governor.

At the same time, President Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia, the nationalist hard-liner whom Western governments regard as the instigator of the savage nine-month war in Bosnia, arrived in Geneva to participate personally in peace talks for the first time in five months.

Bosnian Serbs Renounce Call for a Separate State

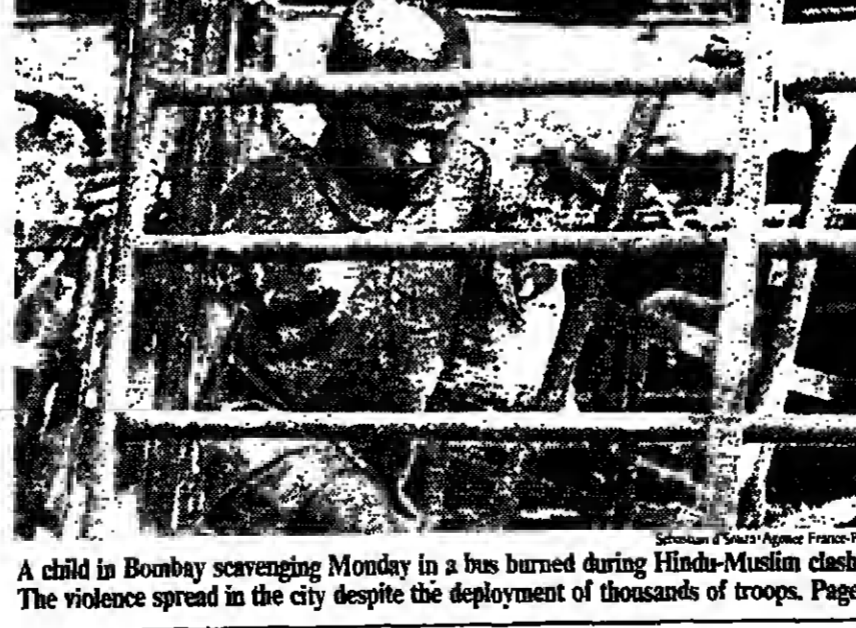
By Blaine Harden Washington Post Service GENEVA — Bosnian Serbs, under intense diplomatic pressure and facing threats of Western military intervention, moved toward concessions on Monday that could end the Bosnian war.

In Paris, Defense Minister Pierre Joxe poured cold water Monday on a suggestion by Foreign Minister Roland Dumas that France was ready to act alone and use force if necessary to free prisoners from Serbian camps in Bosnia, Reuters reported.

Japan's Changing Menus Rice, the Traditional Staple, Gives Way To Beef, Kentucky Fried and Big Macs

By T. R. Reid Washington Post Service TOKYO — In a statistical study that reflects the continued Westernization of this traditional Asian society, Japan's Agriculture Ministry says that meat and dairy products have replaced rice as the chief cash crop of Japanese farmers.

Some economists in Japan argue that the same phenomenon could occur if low-price foreign rice could be sold here. "This news may be ticklish for the Japanese argument against liberalizing rice," the financial newspaper Nikkei Shimbun noted Monday in reporting the latest farm figures.



A child in Bombay scavenging Monday in a bus burned during Hindu-Muslim clashes. The violence spread in the city despite the deployment of thousands of troops. Page 2.

Russia-Nordic Nations Pact on Arctic

OSLO (AP) — Russia and the Nordic countries agreed on Monday to form a joint council, hoping to revive the cooperation in their Arctic regions that was put on hold during the Cold War.

land, Iceland and Denmark. The Council of the Euro-Arctic Region, also called the Barents region, will promote trade and cooperation between their provinces near the Barents Sea, the ministers said after a one-day meeting in the northern Norwegian town of Kirkenes, near the Russian border.

L.A. Tourists Come Away With Visions of... Beirut?

By Kristina Sauerwein Los Angeles Times Service LOS ANGELES — Donald Kreipl felt cheated. For his 40th birthday, he flew here from Germany to celebrate with "the heavy metal rockers who hang out in Hollywood."

And bizarre. "I saw Jesus two times," she said. Downtown, an impersonator preached next to a manger, and in the beach community of Redondo Beach, a man dressed in a long robe lugged a 12-foot-by-6-foot (3.6-meter-by-1.8-meter) cross on the street.

It is not as if they have not been warned. Sue Powell, a travel counselor in Northfield, Minnesota, said clients who want to visit the West Coast frequently failed to realize that Los Angeles was an expensive, crime-ridden city. "It's difficult to convince them that L.A. is different from small towns like Northfield or the ones in Europe," she said.

Market data including Dow Jones (Up 11.06), Trib Index (Up 0.07%), The Dollar (1.624), and Business/Finance news.

Clinton's First 100 Days, Crossword Weather, and other news snippets.

Style

Milan Menswear: Price Is Right

By Suzy Menkes
International Herald Tribune

MILAN — The menswear shows have opened with two words on everyone's lips: knits and prices. A combination of a strong dollar and an exceptionally good holiday season in the United States has cheered store buyers, most of whom have come from the Florence weekend shows, enthusing over a capsule collection from Paul Smith of Britain and a circus presentation by Romeo Gigli.

The most significant thing about the new autumn and winter lines is that they are in touch — with ecology, nature and the feel-good fabrics that are luxurious but not flashy. And knits are expected to stage a major comeback — both in the easy layers of sweaters and cardigans for weekend wear, and in woven materials that give texture and surface interest to regular jackets.

The mood on Milan's opening day was summed up by Anthony Tarassi, whose quiet grays, absorbed from the city's drizzling skies and stolid stone buildings, made a fine collection.

"I do things you have to look at closely and feel — not like designers whose clothes you can see coming down the street," said Tarassi of his cloud-gray alpaca jacket sashed like a bathrobe and subtle mixes of fabric: a cardigan striped in knit and jersey or a shirt in patchwork squares of cotton and wool. Everything was soft to handle, from brushed-cotton T-shirts in make-believe cashmere to deep-pile teddy-bear wool bouclé.

Tarassi's way of making jackets like shirts and polo sweaters in jersey looks modern, and his knits included sophisticated tank tops to be worn outside as a body-warming layer and ethnic sweaters in marled wool.

The shows really get going Tuesday, with Versace, Ferré and Armani in the latter half of the week. But there is a new kid on the block: Sergio Giombelli, the founding father of Byblos, who was ousted from the family business and has now set up on his own.

"It's a very exciting moment — it's doing what I did before, expressing what is inside me, but with a much smaller company so the operation is more flexible and I can be closer to the customer," said Giombelli, who has meetings this week with representatives of stores from Barneys and Bergdorf's to Charivari and Neiman-Marcus.

Wearing a sunflower vest (from Paul Smith), Giombelli's son Alfredo — a fashion student in London — showed off the new line, which has a hint of the 1960s in its short coats and elongated jackets, and a focus on natural colors or, by contrast, black and red. Textural effects include a soft woven jacket with the tweedy look of Donegal knit and sweaters that are the real needles-and-yarn thing.

Another family upset has given Reporter a new management and a sharper cutting edge of fashion under its British designer of eight years, Greg Lesson. He focused on knits for a polar-inspired theme in plaid colors, using, he said, "an old type of machine to give a bouclé effect." Other texture stories included hairy tweed caps and flecked herringbone sweaters in the ploughed-earth country colors, and corduroy.

The big ovens in recession-ridden Milan is that the devaluation of the lira last fall may have the desired effect of pushing export sales.

"The Italian business is very important to us and prices are going to be at least 20 percent down," said Larry Schechterman, divisional merchandise manager at Bloomingdale's. He praised Canali, who showed Monday, as "real fashion, not fleeting fashion."

Canali transformed the suit by using gradations of color and texture to form easy pieces — say a stone cashmere jacket and matching cords, with a beige moleskin vest. The color tones were from earth, air and water, using mud beige, earth browns and soft blues.

Bill Clinton is rumored to have bought a Canali suit for the inauguration. Canali's new-look suits were sharpish, double-breasted and single, always with cuffed pants — and a long way in cut and style from George Bush's signature sack suit.



Drawing by Anthony Tarassi for a cardigan in a mixture of jersey and wool stripes.



Robert Merloz: "I like poetic, fragile women, who don't push themselves forward." At right, his yellow suit with fitted cutaway jacket and gathered above-the-knee skirt.

A Romantic Look on the Left Bank

PARIS — With Claude Moutana opposite and Inès de la Fressange around the corner, Robert Merloz opens his airy new Left Bank boutique next week. His arrival on Rue de Grenelle is part of the bounce-back of an area that was the height of fashion in 1968 — the year of student turbulence in France.

There is nothing luxe or glossy about the clothes that go on sale in his new shop and at Barneys in New York. The silhouette is what the French call "jeune fille": petite, high-waisted, with a focus on the rounded bosom and the girlish dress, or with brief jackets and skirts breaking into an A-line shape below.

For Hearth and Home, Far-Flung Fabrics

PARIS — Fashionable Paris spent its weekend at home — not cocooned from the blustery winter weather, but visiting fairs devoted to furniture, antiques and fabrics.

part of the new feeling for natural materials," said Tricia Guild of Designers Guild, showing a range of woven fabrics in neutral colors alongside plaids that would have been much too jazzy for Queen Victoria's Balmoral.



Trompe l'oeil fabric from Deschemaker.

fashion fabrics was shown by the number of stands, from Soulelado through Euro, offering clothes and home accessories.

Examine had plunged deep into the forest, for leafy prints on a beige or brown ground that once again expressed an ecological and African feeling. For all the traditional richness of many of the Biennale fabrics, the swing seems to be away from opulent interiors and back to nature in far-flung places.

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Herald Tribune

INTERNATIONAL Herald Tribune

Published with The New York Times and The Washington Post

Get Ukraine On Board

The just-completed treaty pledging dramatic reductions in nuclear arms could dispel fears of a devastating first strike forever. That puts America and Russia "at the threshold of a new world of hope."

wants \$1.5 billion, an outlandish sum. Kiev is also seeking a U.S. security guarantee against Russia. But Washington would be foolish to offer one. That would needlessly affront Russian nationalists, already smoldering about Moscow's diminished stature.

Banning Chemical Arms

Poison gas is one of the ugliest and most indiscriminate weapons in the modern armory. In Paris, some 130 governments are to sign an agreement Wednesday to ban it worldwide. The Chemical Weapons Convention is a remarkable achievement, particularly in its drastic provisions for verification and inspection — precedents for other kinds of arms control treaties in the future.

If Iran signs the Chemical Weapons Convention, as it says it will, it will commit itself not to produce or stock the weapons. How would you know what Iran was doing with the hydrogen cyanide? By going and looking. That is the radical new factor in this agreement. A government that suspects another of making gas weapons can demand an international inspection anywhere on 24 hours' notice.

Time Is on Egypt's Side

It has been quite a year on the plateau of Giza near Cairo, home of the Pyramids and the Sphinx, where a team of archaeologists cleaning the ancient wonders has racked up a string of spectacular discoveries about their hitherto mysterious birth. The excavators have found, among other things, the village where the pyramid-building workers were housed, the records of what they were paid and materials that lead to a reasonable hypothesis of how the giant slabs were lifted into place.

Egypt. The reason is a rash of attacks on tourists and tour buses by fundamentalist groups. The deaths of several European tourists and fear that the efforts will intensify has cut tourism revenues by more than half, with serious ripple effects in the economy.

There Goes the Prom

Comes now word that the future leader of the free world has recruited Fleetwood Mac to play at his inauguration. There are many things, including some countries, that have split up and need to be put back together. But the band — Mick Fleetwood, John McVie, Christine McVie, Lindsey Buckingham and Stevie Nicks — isn't one of them.

mittie who could provide us guidance? If the Clintons want geriatric rockers, they should call in John Fogory or Neil Young. If getting votes from their generational peers is the Clintons' aim, they could book Mojo Nixon. His tribute to child-rearing, "I'm Living With a Three-Foot Antichrist," will win over any harried thirty- or forty-something parent.

A Cambodia Failure Would Hurt the UN Everywhere

By Gerald Segal and Mats Berdal

LONDON — The fate of United Nations peacekeeping has reached a defining moment. As evidence mounts that the largest and most comprehensive UN operation, the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia, or UNTAC, may be on the verge of failure, it becomes increasingly clear that serious damage will be done not only to the people of Cambodia but to the UN as a whole.

second problem: how to effectively carry out an agreed-on plan to close the Thai-Cambodian frontier, thus denying the Khmer Rouge supplies and profits from gem and timber trading. China has been surprisingly supportive of this embargo, but Thailand refuses to allow UN monitors near the frontier area. The Thai military is making too much money from deals in the border area to allow serious application of the embargo. Only pressure on Bangkok from the West and other nations of East Asia could change this.

ment, the Khmer Rouge will be more likely to win an ensuing struggle for power. The task of saving UNTAC is daunting. It has been useful, to be sure, in repatriating roughly half the 370,000 Cambodian refugees in Thailand. But having done so, the Thai incentive to cooperate with the UN authority is much reduced. UNTAC has been unable to demobilize more than 10 percent of the troops in the country. The original objective of 70 percent has effectively been abandoned.

risks of a wider war in Indochina. Damage would also be done to the prestige of Japan, and to any hope of Tokyo becoming a permanent member of the UN Security Council. Unless the major powers act quickly to shore up the UN authority in Cambodia, severe damage would be done to the notion that the UN can be an effective instrument for ensuring stability and security in today's world. A failure in Cambodia would be seen to show that in complex and intense civil wars, even enormous UN operations cannot rebuild countries.

Clinton Should Go Beyond This Post-Everything Era

By E. J. Dionne Jr.

WASHINGTON — The good news and the bad news for President-elect Bill Clinton is that he is taking power at a time when what he thinks of as "the West" is haunted by the specter of an intellectual vacuum.

not answer than to answer them yourself. It is easier for Bill Clinton than it is for George Bush or Ronald Reagan or Jimmy Carter than it is for him to define what Bill Clinton is.

The surest sign of this confusion is the omnipresence of the word "post." We refer to postmodernism, the post-Cold War world, post-Reaganism, poststructuralism, postliberalism; we live in a post-Communist, post-baby boom, postrevisionist world — some say our posthistory has already begun. We don't know what we are. We only know what we are "post."

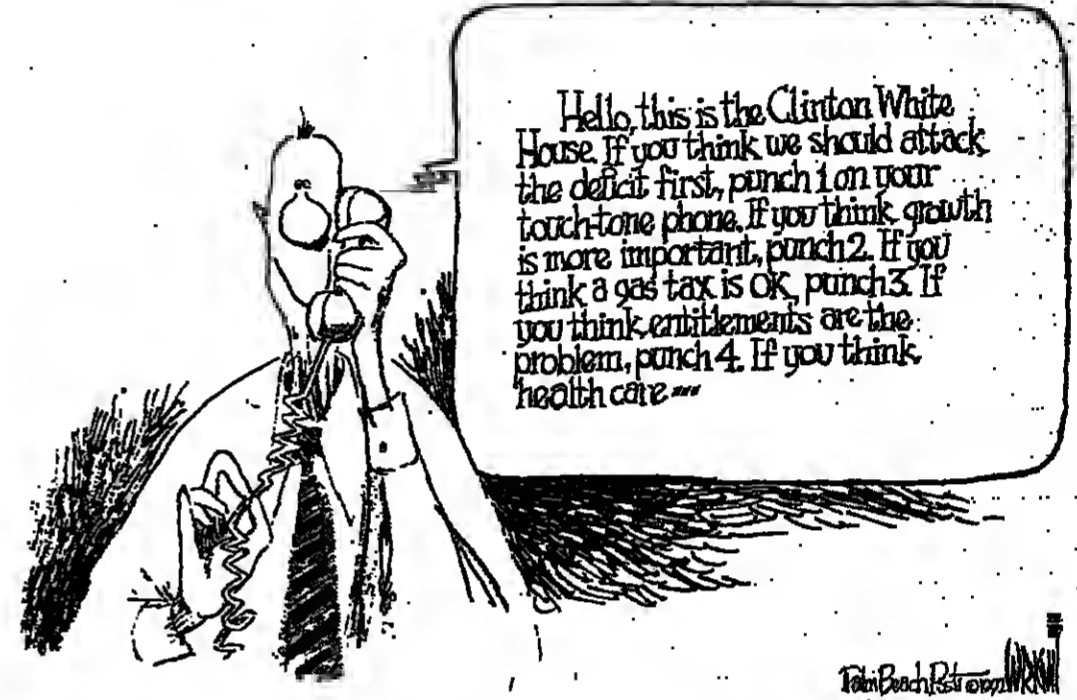
In other words, Americans want a sense of national morale that comes only from the conviction that the country's leaders are operating on the basis of compelling principles and ideas. Mr. Clinton, who loves to talk, may be pleased to know that what he says might just prove almost as important as what he does.

Through most of history, the world has been too complicated for grand strategies to be very useful. We are at such a juncture again, and we should be glad for it. If the price of clear foreign policy thinking is having to face Nazis and Stalinists with a lot of weapons, I will take muddle.

These included all of Mr. Clinton's big questions about community and responsibility; there was a desire for political participation to mean something, and a hope that a diverse society might rediscover a limited but clear set of rules and goals that could bring people together across lines of race, class and gender.

We are increasingly preoccupied with matters markets do not resolve: How do we create something called "community"? How can society and government promote both personal and social responsibility? What are the links between the values a society promotes and its success in the world marketplace? How can we build competition into a fundamentally competitive society?

Mr. Clinton is a politician, not a philosopher — and as a general rule, it makes sense to be wary of those who would pretend to be philosopher-kings or philosopher-presidents. But more than Bill Clinton may realize, all of his talk about moving "beyond liberalism" and "beyond conservatism" amounts to an implicit campaign promise to explain what that means. For Mr. Clinton, it is time for post-beyondism. For the rest of us too.



A Muffled Battle Cry in a Worthy War

By David S. Broder

WASHINGTON — During last year's campaign, it became known as the Speech He Never Gave. It was a speech on "entreprenurial government," a new way of organizing the bureaucracy to cut down on wasteful spending and excessive staffing — and improve the delivery of services.

reacracy and, most important, getting the citizens better results. That sounds like Republican talk; in fact, both Richard Nixon and Ronald Reagan started such efforts. But they stalled far short of success, stymied by the suspicion in Congress, state legislatures and city halls that these conservatives were just seeking to sabotage vital social services.

To Refloat Haiti, Push the Coup Regime Overboard

By Jean-Bertrand Aristide

WASHINGTON — The fear that the United States will be overrun by Haitian refugees should not blind Americans to the continuing human-rights abuses in my country and in the necessity of restoring democracy.

The rate of increase in human-rights violations is matched only by the rapid growth of Haiti's drug trade. Drug trafficking has increased significantly since the coup, according to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency. It is no coincidence that many of the officers suspected to be involved in drug trafficking were also a part of the coup.

I feel sad when I see pictures of my countrymen building boats in preparation for the dangerous ride to the United States. After I was elected president of Haiti in December 1990, Haitian emigration not only slowed to a trickle, but many Haitians returned home from around the world committed to building democracy with skills that had been driven out of the country by the brutality and corruption of previous regimes.

minister and to run the government. The small group of coup leaders have to be removed. I have received letters from many rank-and-file members of the military and am convinced that a majority of them are also victims of the coup. We are ready to grant general amnesty to the army.

I am confident that President-elect Bill Clinton understands the need to stand strong in Haiti. He has stressed that the United States should "use its unique position to support freedom, whether it's in Haiti or China."

Today, there is a team of only 16 members in Port-au-Prince. Their ability to conduct their mission has been largely blocked by the military. I remain flexible, convinced it is time to look to the future and heal wounds from the past. We cannot, however, sacrifice the democracy we were sworn to uphold.

What we have here may be confirmation of our deepest fears. The ball monitors have taken over and, in this case, been put in charge of music for the senior prom. Isn't there someone at the Inaugural Com-

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1893: Royal Nuptials

PARIS — Good wishes will accompany Prince Ferdinand of Hohenzollern and Princess Marie of Edinburgh over the threshold of their married life. More interest than is usually taken by the public in Royal weddings has been felt in this union of two young people who are allied to two of the most powerful of the reigning houses of Europe, but who are likewise understood to entertain, one for the other, feelings of the tenderest complexion.

crown the heroic deeds of the army and navy by a good honorable peace, which will obtain and guarantee happy conditions of life for German laborers and the free development of their labors on German soil.

1918: A 'Happy Peace'

AMSTERDAM — The Committee for a German Laborers' Peace has sent telegrams to the German Emperor, the Crown Prince and Hindenburg, requesting them to secure the future of German laborers by a "peace of victory." The Crown Prince replied: "There is no reason for the uneasiness expressed in your telegram. I ask you to believe that the leaders of the German Empire will

1943: Caucasus Cities Fall

MOSCOW — [From our New York edition] Six Caucasus cities along the road to Rostov, including Georgievsk, Mineralnye Vody and Pyatigorsk, have fallen to the Russians in the biggest bag of their winter offensive, it was announced last night [Jan. 11] in a special communiqué. The Red Army took these places, which are on or near the Rostov-Baku railway, by swift encircling maneuvers which forced the Germans to retreat hastily to the northwest through Armavir toward Rostov. The North Caucasus offensive is only eighteen days old, but the Russians have advanced 112 miles since they checked the Germans in the suburbs of Ordzhonikidze.

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Tel.: (1) 46.37.93.00. Telex: Circulation, 612832; Production, 630698.
Directeur de la Publication: Richard D. Simmons
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OPINION

Don't Bet on Gambling To Pick Up Those Tabs

By William Safire

BETHESDA, Maryland — A pernicious philosophy of something-for-nothing is sweeping the country. Politicians push state-sponsored gambling to bail the poor while publishers back lotteries to deceive the public. Here in the Democratic-dominated state of Maryland, Governor William ("Bei While You Booze") Schaefer is being visited by restaurants with bars to tout his solution to budget-balancing: Keno, a numbers game under state auspices that entices patrons to stare at a television screen above the bar and try their luck. The governor is putting the power of his office behind the exploitation of a human weakness. It raises money for worthy purposes, he maintains, firmly placing the ends before the means — and besides, people gamble anyway. On that theory, why not State of Maryland Official Brothels? People patronize prostitutes anyway, so why not cut out the middleman and have the state run the enterprise? Libertarians like me believe that gambling should be decriminalized, regulated and taxed — but certainly not encouraged by public policy. We do not want to see our governors out there hustling customers out to what is manifestly against their economic interests. Gubernatorial shilling is wrong. Fortunately for Marylanders, no Indian reservations are in the state. The Supreme Court has held that when a state sponsors gambling, it cannot deny the lucrative activity to tribes within its borders. As a result, American Indian leaders have joined up with corporate hustlers to erect glitzy casinos on reservations. Like Mr. Schaefer, they insist that the purported end (lifting Native Americans out of poverty) justifies the sleazy means (preying on the suckers of other cultures while corrupting their own). When the likelihood of corruption was broached in this space a year ago, American Indian leaders and their partners' lawyers complained. Now we have a report from the inspector general of the Interior Department charging that "over \$12 million may have been diverted from tribes to operators and suppliers, principally because of theft and mismanagement." Interior shyly names no names. But to get an idea of the profit potential in the industry spawned by state-sponsored gambling, flip through the 1992 annual report of Grand Casinos Inc. The promoter, Lyle Berman of Minneapolis, boasts that 2 million visitors have come to the home of the Ojibwe Indians, where 1,400 video slot machines now grace Minnesota's premium gaming lake. Why are the holy Satanasolas not up in arms against the enslavement of something-for-nothing by so many state legislatures? Because many publishers are eager participants in the swappstakes frenzy. If you have not received a bulky envelope announcing that you are a "finalist" in the Publishers Clearing House \$10 million sweepstakes, you must be a demographically dead American. Breathless TV spots hype the promotion; local media outlets cover the winners (never the millions of losers) as news. Although the notice that "no purchase is necessary to enter and win" appears on the back of one of the so-called certificates, that federal requirement is cunningly circumvented by the headline "An Order Gets You Express Entry." The dodge: "If your entry comes in on time with at least one Order Coupon on it, we'll automatically enter you in every contest." The clear implication: If you buy a magazine, your contest entry — your impossible dream — gets preferential treatment. And if you don't buy, the promoters warn, you may not get another lottery entry. Such august publications as Time, Newsweek, U.S. News, Forbes, Reader's Digest and Golf Digest sell subscriptions this way. No editor records publicly in distaste. Why? Because too many state governors and powerful publishers go along. Unless curbed by public revulsion, the insidious propagation of something-for-nothing will explode into its next phase: Keno on a sub-notebook computer, a state-sponsored casino in your coat pocket, a slot machine in your children's jeans. The truth is that nothing is for nothing. Hard work, talent, merit will win you something. Reliance on luck, playing the sucker, will make you a loser all your life. The New York Times.



Little Rock vs. Big Rock

Of Becky, a Shack, Southerners and Bill

By Tracy Thompson

WASHINGTON — One of my earliest memories is of following my grandfather in the field as he plowed with his mule. Becky. It was about 1960; I would have been 5 or 6. The crab apple trees were blooming; it was late in the day. My feet can still feel the moist chunks of reddish Georgia clay, the chill that seeped out of the ground as if winter were yielding to spring between my toes. I maintain a collection of such mental artifacts, all defined by temperature, topography, vegetation, a particular slant of light. The weight of the summer air; the halucatory, omnipresent clatter of cicadas in July; the heavy, fruity scent of muscadines in October. It's all very beautiful, and yet I am vaguely ashamed of it. And that, I think, sums up what it means to be a Southerner of the baby boom generation, a group that includes our next president. Why am I ashamed? Because I know that though the image is lovely, there is something in it that is not: the dirty shack in the background, home to a succession of black tenants who worked for my grandparents. The region and era I am from produced a generation imprinted by these divided emotions, equal parts shame and sentiment. Old enough to define ourselves by our place of birth, we are too young to have known the worst of its racist legacy. We are, for the most part, an educated and affluent group. Yet many of us are only one generation removed from people who were poor and uneducated and who knew it, and who masked their bitterness with regional chauvinism.

Southerners of my generation were asked, early in life, to look into the ugly mirror of racial intolerance and see themselves. When I was a child, our family dentist in Fairburn, Georgia, had a front door and a back door to his office. On the back door, now bare, there was a faded spot where a sign had evidently been for many years. You could still tell what the sign had said: Colored. Somewhere, in my child's mind, I filed that observation away for future reference. The issue did not crystallize for me until a moment in 1964 when a bunch of us kids were arguing at the bus stop over who should be president, Barry Goldwater or Lyndon Johnson, and one of us uttered the word "nigger." I turned and saw behind me Lovett and Roberta Strozzer, who lived in my grandparents' shack. I will never forget the carefully blank look on their faces. The person who had said that word was me. Money cannot buy that kind of lesson about bigotry. And so I am defensive when I encounter people who assume I haven't learned it. Recently, a newspaper columnist quoted a black woman who had found herself stranded with a desperately ill husband on a rural Georgia road. The locals were very kind, she reported, even though "these were deep-Southern white people, the kind you'd think wouldn't consider helping some black folks." It was news to this lady that not all white Southerners are racists, but I have more news for her: When it comes to public perceptions, she and those white Southerners are, to some extent, in the same boat. The question boils down to this: Can we carry this regional identity without feeling this vague, pervasive defensiveness — or do we chuck it altogether? I have a feeling that the question is still a moot one. The Southern sense of identity is stubborn and illogical. Two stories sum this up. One has to do with the old Confederate who lived in Atlanta during Reconstruction, who used to taunt the Union soldiers on the street. "You may have won the war," he'd say, "but we sure whipped your ass at Chickamauga." The irate soldiers hauled him to their commander, who berated the old man and made him swear out a loyalty oath to the United States of America. The next day, the old man was back on the street. When the Union soldiers walked by, he was ready. "We may have won the war," he yelled, "but the Rebels sure whipped our ass at Chickamauga!" Then there is the story the historian Shelby Foote tells about a Confederate soldier taken prisoner during the Civil War. His interrogators noted that he was dirt poor and had no vested interest in preserving the Southern slave economy. The Union soldiers were fighting to preserve the Union and abolish slavery, they said; what was he fighting for? "I'm fighting because you're down here," the soldier said. Ah, well. The land he was fighting on is covered with asphalt and Wal-Mart's now. Still, underneath all that asphalt is the land I remember from childhood, and it still matters to me that I come from there. That's why, on election night, when Mr. Clinton came out on the steps of the statehouse in Little Rock to make his acceptance speech, I found myself thinking about my grandfather and the mule. It seems as if it happened on another planet, in another lifetime. But it's part of who I am. I would be willing to bet there is a mule in the new president's memory, too, or something like it, and something like that dirty old shack in the background. It is a picture of lovelessness and pain. It is illuminating and humbling. And maybe that is a good thing in a new leader. The Washington Post.

MEANWHILE

Southerners of my generation were asked, early in life, to look into the ugly mirror of racial intolerance and see themselves. When I was a child, our family dentist in Fairburn, Georgia, had a front door and a back door to his office. On the back door, now bare, there was a faded spot where a sign had evidently been for many years. You could still tell what the sign had said: Colored. Somewhere, in my child's mind, I filed that observation away for future reference. The issue did not crystallize for me until a moment in 1964 when a bunch of us kids were arguing at the bus stop over who should be president, Barry Goldwater or Lyndon Johnson, and one of us uttered the word "nigger." I turned and saw behind me Lovett and Roberta Strozzer, who lived in my grandparents' shack. I will never forget the carefully blank look on their faces. The person who had said that word was me. Money cannot buy that kind of lesson about bigotry. And so I am defensive when I encounter people who assume I haven't learned it. Recently, a newspaper columnist quoted a black woman who had found herself stranded with a desperately ill husband on a rural Georgia road. The locals were very kind, she reported, even though "these were deep-Southern white people, the kind you'd think wouldn't consider helping some black folks." It was news to this lady that not all white Southerners are racists, but I have more news for her: When it comes to public perceptions, she and those white Southerners are, to some extent, in the same boat. The question boils down to this: Can we carry this regional identity without feeling this vague, pervasive defensiveness — or do we chuck it altogether? I have a feeling that the question is still a moot one. The Southern sense of identity is stubborn and illogical. Two stories sum this up. One has to do with the old Confederate who lived in Atlanta during Reconstruction, who used to taunt the Union soldiers on the street. "You may have won the war," he'd say, "but we sure whipped your ass at Chickamauga." The irate soldiers hauled him to their commander, who berated the old man and made him swear out a loyalty oath to the United States of America. The next day, the old man was back on the street. When the Union soldiers walked by, he was ready. "We may have won the war," he yelled, "but the Rebels sure whipped our ass at Chickamauga!" Then there is the story the historian Shelby Foote tells about a Confederate soldier taken prisoner during the Civil War. His interrogators noted that he was dirt poor and had no vested interest in preserving the Southern slave economy. The Union soldiers were fighting to preserve the Union and abolish slavery, they said; what was he fighting for? "I'm fighting because you're down here," the soldier said. Ah, well. The land he was fighting on is covered with asphalt and Wal-Mart's now. Still, underneath all that asphalt is the land I remember from childhood, and it still matters to me that I come from there. That's why, on election night, when Mr. Clinton came out on the steps of the statehouse in Little Rock to make his acceptance speech, I found myself thinking about my grandfather and the mule. It seems as if it happened on another planet, in another lifetime. But it's part of who I am. I would be willing to bet there is a mule in the new president's memory, too, or something like it, and something like that dirty old shack in the background. It is a picture of lovelessness and pain. It is illuminating and humbling. And maybe that is a good thing in a new leader. The Washington Post.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Russia Need Not Fail

The Washington Post editorial "Yes, Keep Helping Russia" (Dec. 29) says that the "West continues to have an invaluable opportunity to exert its influence." We are only worried that this opportunity is being ignored. Throughout Russia, and particularly in St. Petersburg, the present regime, in open contradiction to its international obligations, is still barring hundreds of would-be emigrants from leaving, on absurd allegations of state secrecy. We agree that the West should help, but we would insist the help be tied to the proviso that agreements already freely entered into must be honored. The United Nations human rights charter must not be violated; freedom of belief, speech and movement must be ensured.

MARGARET RIGAL, Women's Campaign for Soviet Jewry, Loudon.

Former President Richard Nixon's apocalyptic view of Russia screams of the paranoia we have come to expect from this old Cold Warrior ("The West Will Pay If Boris Yeltsin Falls," Opinion, Nov. 20). Mr. Nixon would have us believe a country that cannot feed its people under democracy would re-emerge as a global threat under rejuvenated Soviet totalitarianism. Such doom-day scenarios have served the U.S. military-industrial complex well for nearly half a century; should democracy fail in Russia, I'm sure they will again.

FRED L. WYMORE, Basel, Switzerland.

Dealing With China

Now that the Bush administration has done its last kowtow in Beijing, it is time to look at what can be expected from Bill Clinton. After a promising start in the campaign, it now seems that he sees China as less deserving of censure. Obviously China has done something in the last few weeks to indicate that it is a more responsible member of the community of nations! Well, it has not renounced the threat of invasion of Taiwan, it has not given Tibet back to the Dalai Lama and it has not stopped the persecution of Christians in China.

There are, however, some things it has done. It has reiterated the Chinese claim to exclusive sovereignty over the Spratly Islands with the implicit threat of military action to enforce that claim. Prime Minister Li Peng said that the claim would be settled between China and Vietnam and that Beijing would brook no interference by outside parties. This despite the fact that the islands are also claimed by numerous other Asian nations.

The hierarchy of the People's Liberation Army has been purged of progressive thinkers who considered that the army should be an army of the state. They have been replaced by more ideologically sound generals who, propagandist editorials proclaim, will ensure that the army is the army of the party. There is no need to recount the tirade of abuse and outright interference in the internal affairs of Hong Kong by ill-mannered government functionaries in Beijing.

Just as China has dished up more of the same in recent weeks, it looks like the Clinton administration will continue appeasement of Beijing in the years to come, appeasement of the people who Sir Percy Cradock said "were thugs, are thugs and always will be thugs."

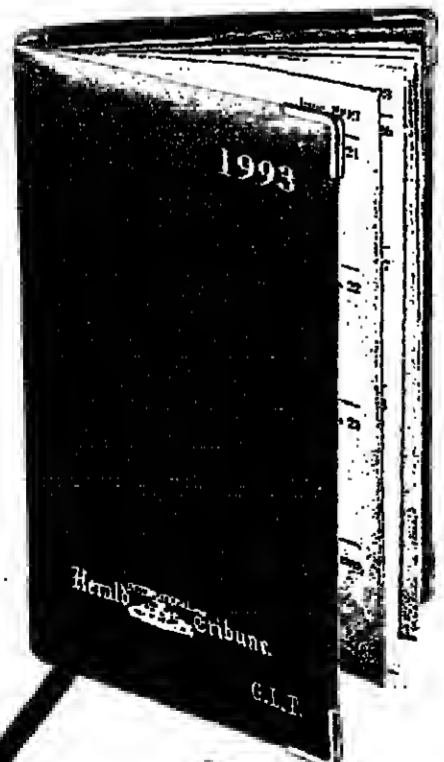
LEIGHTON JOHANNESSEN, Hong Kong.

Having been to China on numerous occasions, both on business and pleasure, it is always interesting to read articles about that country by supposedly knowledgeable journalists. A. M. Rosenthal obviously knows China better than I do, especially the "terror, torture and slave labor" he must have witnessed firsthand ("A Cynical Voyage by China's Appearers," Opinion, Dec. 19). Mr. Rosenthal does not like China nor its cheap products, and he is entitled to his opinion. But calling the Chinese rulers "tough old killers" is not going to improve U.S.-Chinese relations.

China is an authoritarian state trying to bring a certain prosperity to its billion-plus population. Things are far from perfect, but with guidance and cooperation from the West, China will slowly "democratize" itself. Every country has its problems to solve; each uses the methods open to it. Unless there is absolute proof of deeds below any form of human decency, then the world would be better off preaching less and practicing more.

PHILLIP DAVIES, Moutreaux, Switzerland.

Thin, Flat And Elegant: The IHT Personalized Pocket Diary Puts 1993 Right Into Your Pocket.



Year after year — even at a period when diaries abound — the International Herald Tribune flat, silk-grain leather diary is the hit of the season. Ingeniously designed to be thinner-than-thin, it still brings you everything... including a built-in note pad with always-available "jotting paper". Plus there are conversation tables of weights, measures and distances, a list of national holidays by country, a wine vintage chart, and many other useful facts. All in this incredibly flat little book that slips easily into a pocket. The perfect gift for almost anyone... including yourself. — Please allow three weeks for delivery.

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Newsweek THE INTERNATIONAL NEWSMAGAZINE

NYSE

Monday's Closing

Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

12 Month High Low Stock

| 12 Month High | 12 Month Low | Stock | 12 Month High | 12 Month Low | Stock |
|---------------|--------------|------------|---------------|--------------|------------|
| 30.00 | 28.00 | Alcoa | 75.00 | 70.00 | Eastman |
| 31.00 | 29.00 | Allegiant | 76.00 | 71.00 | Eaton |
| 32.00 | 30.00 | Allegheny | 77.00 | 72.00 | Echelon |
| 33.00 | 31.00 | Allstate | 78.00 | 73.00 | Edwards |
| 34.00 | 32.00 | Amgen | 79.00 | 74.00 | Emulex |
| 35.00 | 33.00 | American | 80.00 | 75.00 | Enduro |
| 36.00 | 34.00 | Ameriquest | 81.00 | 76.00 | Energy |
| 37.00 | 35.00 | Amgen | 82.00 | 77.00 | Ensign |
| 38.00 | 36.00 | Analog | 83.00 | 78.00 | Equifax |
| 39.00 | 37.00 | Amstar | 84.00 | 79.00 | Ergonomics |
| 40.00 | 38.00 | Amstar | 85.00 | 80.00 | Equinox |
| 41.00 | 39.00 | Amstar | 86.00 | 81.00 | Ergonomics |
| 42.00 | 40.00 | Amstar | 87.00 | 82.00 | Equinox |
| 43.00 | 41.00 | Amstar | 88.00 | 83.00 | Ergonomics |
| 44.00 | 42.00 | Amstar | 89.00 | 84.00 | Equinox |
| 45.00 | 43.00 | Amstar | 90.00 | 85.00 | Ergonomics |

| 12 Month High | 12 Month Low | Stock |
|---------------|--------------|--------|
| 46.00 | 44.00 | Amstar |
| 47.00 | 45.00 | Amstar |
| 48.00 | 46.00 | Amstar |
| 49.00 | 47.00 | Amstar |
| 50.00 | 48.00 | Amstar |

| 12 Month High | 12 Month Low | Stock |
|---------------|--------------|--------|
| 51.00 | 49.00 | Amstar |
| 52.00 | 50.00 | Amstar |
| 53.00 | 51.00 | Amstar |
| 54.00 | 52.00 | Amstar |
| 55.00 | 53.00 | Amstar |
| 56.00 | 54.00 | Amstar |
| 57.00 | 55.00 | Amstar |
| 58.00 | 56.00 | Amstar |
| 59.00 | 57.00 | Amstar |
| 60.00 | 58.00 | Amstar |

| 12 Month High | 12 Month Low | Stock |
|---------------|--------------|--------|
| 61.00 | 59.00 | Amstar |
| 62.00 | 60.00 | Amstar |
| 63.00 | 61.00 | Amstar |
| 64.00 | 62.00 | Amstar |
| 65.00 | 63.00 | Amstar |
| 66.00 | 64.00 | Amstar |
| 67.00 | 65.00 | Amstar |
| 68.00 | 66.00 | Amstar |
| 69.00 | 67.00 | Amstar |
| 70.00 | 68.00 | Amstar |

| 12 Month High | 12 Month Low | Stock |
|---------------|--------------|--------|
| 71.00 | 69.00 | Amstar |
| 72.00 | 70.00 | Amstar |
| 73.00 | 71.00 | Amstar |
| 74.00 | 72.00 | Amstar |
| 75.00 | 73.00 | Amstar |

| 12 Month High | 12 Month Low | Stock |
|---------------|--------------|--------|
| 76.00 | 74.00 | Amstar |
| 77.00 | 75.00 | Amstar |
| 78.00 | 76.00 | Amstar |
| 79.00 | 77.00 | Amstar |
| 80.00 | 78.00 | Amstar |
| 81.00 | 79.00 | Amstar |
| 82.00 | 80.00 | Amstar |
| 83.00 | 81.00 | Amstar |
| 84.00 | 82.00 | Amstar |
| 85.00 | 83.00 | Amstar |

| 12 Month High | 12 Month Low | Stock |
|---------------|--------------|--------|
| 86.00 | 84.00 | Amstar |
| 87.00 | 85.00 | Amstar |
| 88.00 | 86.00 | Amstar |
| 89.00 | 87.00 | Amstar |
| 90.00 | 88.00 | Amstar |
| 91.00 | 89.00 | Amstar |
| 92.00 | 90.00 | Amstar |
| 93.00 | 91.00 | Amstar |
| 94.00 | 92.00 | Amstar |
| 95.00 | 93.00 | Amstar |

| 12 Month High | 12 Month Low | Stock |
|---------------|--------------|--------|
| 96.00 | 94.00 | Amstar |
| 97.00 | 95.00 | Amstar |
| 98.00 | 96.00 | Amstar |
| 99.00 | 97.00 | Amstar |
| 100.00 | 98.00 | Amstar |

| 12 Month High | 12 Month Low | Stock |
|---------------|--------------|--------|
| 101.00 | 99.00 | Amstar |
| 102.00 | 100.00 | Amstar |
| 103.00 | 101.00 | Amstar |
| 104.00 | 102.00 | Amstar |
| 105.00 | 103.00 | Amstar |
| 106.00 | 104.00 | Amstar |
| 107.00 | 105.00 | Amstar |
| 108.00 | 106.00 | Amstar |
| 109.00 | 107.00 | Amstar |
| 110.00 | 108.00 | Amstar |

| 12 Month High | 12 Month Low | Stock |
|---------------|--------------|--------|
| 111.00 | 109.00 | Amstar |
| 112.00 | 110.00 | Amstar |
| 113.00 | 111.00 | Amstar |
| 114.00 | 112.00 | Amstar |
| 115.00 | 113.00 | Amstar |
| 116.00 | 114.00 | Amstar |
| 117.00 | 115.00 | Amstar |
| 118.00 | 116.00 | Amstar |
| 119.00 | 117.00 | Amstar |
| 120.00 | 118.00 | Amstar |

| 12 Month High | 12 Month Low | Stock |
|---------------|--------------|--------|
| 121.00 | 119.00 | Amstar |
| 122.00 | 120.00 | Amstar |
| 123.00 | 121.00 | Amstar |
| 124.00 | 122.00 | Amstar |
| 125.00 | 123.00 | Amstar |

| 12 Month High | 12 Month Low | Stock |
|---------------|--------------|--------|
| 126.00 | 124.00 | Amstar |
| 127.00 | 125.00 | Amstar |
| 128.00 | 126.00 | Amstar |
| 129.00 | 127.00 | Amstar |
| 130.00 | 128.00 | Amstar |
| 131.00 | 129.00 | Amstar |
| 132.00 | 130.00 | Amstar |
| 133.00 | 131.00 | Amstar |
| 134.00 | 132.00 | Amstar |
| 135.00 | 133.00 | Amstar |

| 12 Month High | 12 Month Low | Stock |
|---------------|--------------|--------|
| 136.00 | 134.00 | Amstar |
| 137.00 | 135.00 | Amstar |
| 138.00 | 136.00 | Amstar |
| 139.00 | 137.00 | Amstar |
| 140.00 | 138.00 | Amstar |
| 141.00 | 139.00 | Amstar |
| 142.00 | 140.00 | Amstar |
| 143.00 | 141.00 | Amstar |
| 144.00 | 142.00 | Amstar |
| 145.00 | 143.00 | Amstar |

| 12 Month High | 12 Month Low | Stock |
|---------------|--------------|--------|
| 146.00 | 144.00 | Amstar |
| 147.00 | 145.00 | Amstar |
| 148.00 | 146.00 | Amstar |
| 149.00 | 147.00 | Amstar |
| 150.00 | 148.00 | Amstar |

| 12 Month High | 12 Month Low | Stock |
|---------------|--------------|--------|
| 151.00 | 149.00 | Amstar |
| 152.00 | 150.00 | Amstar |
| 153.00 | 151.00 | Amstar |
| 154.00 | 152.00 | Amstar |
| 155.00 | 153.00 | Amstar |
| 156.00 | 154.00 | Amstar |
| 157.00 | 155.00 | Amstar |
| 158.00 | 156.00 | Amstar |
| 159.00 | 157.00 | Amstar |
| 160.00 | 158.00 | Amstar |

| 12 Month High | 12 Month Low | Stock |
|---------------|--------------|--------|
| 161.00 | 159.00 | Amstar |
| 162.00 | 160.00 | Amstar |
| 163.00 | 161.00 | Amstar |
| 164.00 | 162.00 | Amstar |
| 165.00 | 163.00 | Amstar |
| 166.00 | 164.00 | Amstar |
| 167.00 | 165.00 | Amstar |
| 168.00 | 166.00 | Amstar |
| 169.00 | 167.00 | Amstar |
| 170.00 | 168.00 | Amstar |

(Continued on page 11)

| NYSE High-Lows | | | |
|----------------|-----------|----------|--------|
| NEW HIGHS | | | |
| Alliant | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Allstate | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Allegiant | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Alcoa | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Amgen | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Amstar | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Ameriquest | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Amgen | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Amstar | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Amstar | Allegheny | American | Analog |

| NEW LOWS | | | |
|------------|-----------|----------|--------|
| Alcoa | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Amgen | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Amstar | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Ameriquest | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Amgen | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Amstar | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Amstar | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Amstar | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Amstar | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Amstar | Allegheny | American | Analog |

| AMEX High-Lows | | | |
|----------------|-----------|----------|--------|
| NEW HIGHS | | | |
| Allegheny | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Allegheny | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Allegheny | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Allegheny | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Allegheny | Allegheny | American | Analog |

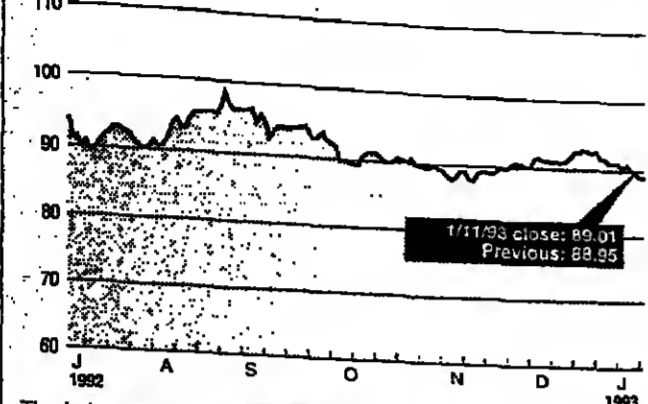
| NEW LOWS | | | |
|-----------|-----------|----------|--------|
| Allegheny | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Allegheny | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Allegheny | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Allegheny | Allegheny | American | Analog |
| Allegheny | Allegheny | American | Analog |

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THE TRIB INDEX: 89.01

International Herald Tribune World Stock Index of 230 internationally investable stocks from 20 countries, compiled by Bloomberg Business News. Jan. 1, 1992 = 100.



The index tracks U.S. dollar values of stocks in Tokyo, London, and Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland. In the case of Tokyo, New York and London, the index is composed of the 20 top issues in terms of market capitalization. In the remaining 17 countries, the ten top stocks are tracked.

Table with 3 columns: Asia/Pacific, Europe, N. America. Each column has a line graph and a table of stock prices and changes.

Table titled 'Industrial Sectors' with columns for Energy, Utilities, Finance, Services, Capital Goods, Raw Materials, Consumer Goods, and Miscellaneous. It lists prices and percentage changes.

INTERNATIONAL STOCKS

Hong Kong Market Seems To Be Taking Heart Again

By Sheryl WuDunn, New York Times Service

THE HONG KONG stock market, whose stellar performance was interrupted by a bout of political worries in December, seems to be starting the new year off right. Hong Kong's economy is expected to remain buoyant as it prepares to enter the Year of the Rooster, mostly on the coattails of China's economic boom, and some analysts expect the market to set records again.

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Table with multiple columns showing currency exchange rates (Cross Rates, Other Dollar Values) and interest rates (Eurocurrency Deposits, Key Money Rates, Forward Rates) as of Jan. 11.

Tandy Plans A Split Into 2 Firms

By Brandon Mitchener, International Herald Tribune

FRANKFURT — Italy began a major foreign borrowing for the first time in two years on Monday in an effort to replenish its reserves and restore investor confidence following its devaluation during last September's currency crisis.

Italy Tests Its Marketability With Bond

By Brandon Mitchener, International Herald Tribune

FRANKFURT — Italy began a major foreign borrowing for the first time in two years on Monday in an effort to replenish its reserves and restore investor confidence following its devaluation during last September's currency crisis.

Bundesbank Official Sees Policy Constraints

By Brandon Mitchener, International Herald Tribune

FRANKFURT — The future of the Deutsche mark, and with it the Bundesbank's strict monetary policy, depend on factors outside the central bank's control, Otmir Issing, a director of the central bank, said Monday.

Clinton Aides Still Favor Short-Term Stimulus

By Steven Greenhouse, New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Despite predictions of larger U.S. budget deficits and despite the recent pickup in economic growth, President Bill Clinton's economic team is still leaning toward a short-term deficit spending plan to create jobs, according to several advisers.

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By Brandon Mitchener, International Herald Tribune

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Key Money Rates

Table showing key money rates for various currencies and terms, including discount rates, prime rates, and Treasury bills.

Forward Rates

Table showing forward rates for various currencies and terms, including 30-day, 60-day, and 90-day rates.

Italy Tests Its Marketability With Bond

By Brandon Mitchener, International Herald Tribune

FRANKFURT — Italy began a major foreign borrowing for the first time in two years on Monday in an effort to replenish its reserves and restore investor confidence following its devaluation during last September's currency crisis.

Bundesbank Official Sees Policy Constraints

By Brandon Mitchener, International Herald Tribune

FRANKFURT — The future of the Deutsche mark, and with it the Bundesbank's strict monetary policy, depend on factors outside the central bank's control, Otmir Issing, a director of the central bank, said Monday.

Clinton Aides Still Favor Short-Term Stimulus

By Steven Greenhouse, New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Despite predictions of larger U.S. budget deficits and despite the recent pickup in economic growth, President Bill Clinton's economic team is still leaning toward a short-term deficit spending plan to create jobs, according to several advisers.

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Large advertisement for 'The Regent' hotel in Hong Kong. Text includes 'HONG KONG'S MOST MAGNIFICENT FLEET DOES NOT NECESSARILY REST ON THE SEA' and 'THE REGENT, HONG KONG'S PRESTIGIOUS CHAUFFEUR-DRIVEN FLEET COMPRISES THE WORLD'S LARGEST COLLECTION OF DAIMLERS - CUSTOM BUILT TO OUR DISCERNING SPECIFICATIONS.' It also lists contact information for the hotel.

Mitsubishi to Pull Plug on Mainframes

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — In a sign that the computer revolution shaking the U.S. industry has hit Japan, Mitsubishi Electric Corp. said Monday it would withdraw from the mainframe business to concentrate on smaller computers and software. The decision highlights a trend among computer makers, most notably International Business Machines Corp., to shift strategy and cut costs as global demand for mainframe computers shrinks. Companies that have bought large mainframes to process huge volumes of data are shifting more and more toward networks of increasingly powerful and cheap desktop machines such as personal computers and workstations.

NTT Promises Steady Payout

TOKYO — Nippon Telegraph & Telephone Corp. will maintain dividends despite falling profits and growing competition, President Masashi Kojima said Monday. "We cannot cause any more trouble for our shareholders," Kyodo News Service quoted Mr. Kojima as saying. "We will maintain the current level of dividend by whatever means, even by withdrawing reserve funds." NTT will pay a dividend of 5,000 yen (\$39.50) for the year to March 1993. That is unchanged from the previous two years, but down from a dividend of 6,000 yen paid in the year to March 1990. NTT shares, which hit a high of 3.18 million yen in 1987, closed at 552,000 yen Monday.

Fletcher Shares Draw Insider Inquiry

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

WELLINGTON — The New Zealand Securities Commission said Monday it is investigating trading of shares in Fletcher Challenge Ltd. prior to the \$230 million sale of its Rural Bank subsidiary to National Bank. The company announced the 450 million New Zealand dollar sale on Nov. 27 amid heavy market speculation. Fletcher shares jumped 37 New Zealand cents to 2.11 dollars in the week before the announcement, while in Australia, where as much as half of the trading in Fletcher shares takes place, the shares jumped 35 percent from Nov. 20 to Nov. 27. The shares fell 4 cents to 2.33 in Wellington on Monday.

China Seeks to List 10 Firms on Foreign Bourses

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — Ten Chinese state-owned companies will seek listings on overseas stock markets this year, the official China Daily reported on Monday. The companies, which will first go through a crash restructuring program, will apply for listings in New York, Singapore, Hong Kong and London or Zurich, Ronald Yang, chairman of the Hong Kong-based Brilliance Group, was quoted as saying. Brilliance Group was formed two years ago by China's central bank to oversee Beijing's effort to seek capital through listings on overseas stock markets.

The commission said it had begun its investigation on Nov. 30 and was cooperating with the Australian Stock Exchange, which began its own review on Dec. 4. National Bank's chief executive, John Anderson, said the Securities Commission had asked when the bank formally received approval to buy Rural Bank. Mr. Anderson said approval came from National's parent, Lloyds Bank PLC, on Nov. 23; local board approval was given Nov. 26 and the deal was completed Nov. 27. "We are not being investigated and the only reason we are at the party is because we bought the Rural Bank," he said. (Bloomberg, AFP, AFX)

Investor's Asia

Table with columns: Hong Kong (Hang Seng, Nikkei 225), Singapore (Straits Times, All Ordinaries), Tokyo (Nikkei 225, Composite). Includes line graphs for Hang Seng, Nikkei 225, and Straits Times. Below is a table of exchange rates.

Very briefly:

- NEC Corp's A2 senior debt rating was put on review for possible downgrade by Moody's Investors Service... Leading Spirit (Holdings), a trader of electrical components, said its initial public offer of 94.5 million shares was oversubscribed 364.3 times... South Korea has drafted a self-policing agreement it hopes to sign with the United States to stop a U.S. anti-dumping investigation against Korean semiconductor officials... Taiwan's trade with China via Hong Kong rose 26 percent to \$7.3 billion in 1992...

Seas

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to Fathom

into Kuwait

into Kuwait

in's Victory

ADVERTISMENT

INTERNATIONAL FUNDS

Quotations supplied by funds listed. Most asset values quotations are supplied by the Funds listed with the exception of some quotes based on issuer prices.

Large table containing numerous fund listings with columns for fund name, asset value, and performance metrics. Includes sub-sections like 'GROWTH PORTFOLIO' and 'INTERNATIONAL EQUITY PORTFOLIO'.

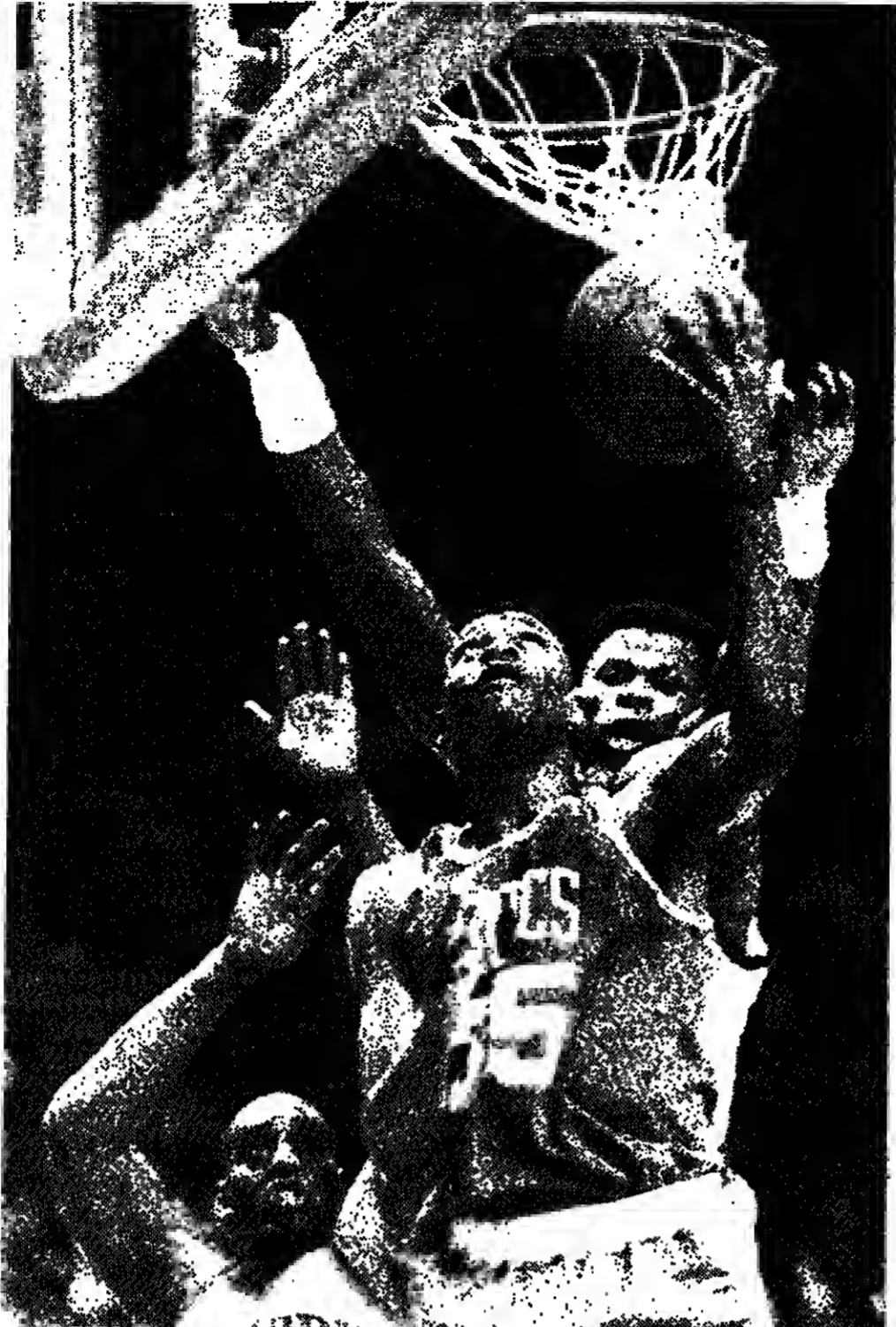
For information on how to list your fund, fax Simon OSBORN on (33-1) 46 37 21 33.

SPORTS BASEBALL

Georgia Tech Hands Duke Its First Loss

By Barry Jacobs
New York Times Service
ATLANTA — Lost in the shadows since a visit to the semifinals of the national championship tournament in 1990, the Georgia Tech basketball team has re-emerged to upend top-ranked Duke, 80-79, in an Atlantic Coast Conference game. It was the Blue Devils' first loss since last Feb. 23, when they fell in another ACC game, 72-68, to Wake Forest. Their winning streak, the longest in the country among major college basketball teams, was stopped at 23. That equaled a school record set last season. The No. 10-ranked Yellow Jackets (9-1, 2-0 in the ACC) scored the game's first dozen points Sunday, then withstood a second-half rally to defeat college basketball's defending national champion. Duke's overall season record is now 11-1; it is 1-1 in the ACC. "Their kids really came out at a high level, played as hard or harder than anybody's played us this year," said Mike Krzyzewski, the Duke coach. Duke trailed by 44-37 at half-time, and didn't take its first lead until Grant Hill hit a leading jumper in the lane for a 60-59 advantage with 9 minutes, 20 seconds remaining. Immediately, the Georgia Tech coach, Bobby Cremins, called a timeout. "I thought we were choking," he said. "I thought we were throwing it away. I called a timeout and challenged them. I just told them, 'You played so hard, and now you're just giving them the game.' I could see the look in their eyes. They got mad, and we really showed tremendous guts." Three ties and four lead changes later, Georgia Tech went ahead to stay, 68-66, on an inside basket by Malcolm Mackey. Mackey, a 6-

foot-11-inch senior center, and the freshman guard Drew Barry, Rick Barry's youngest son, each scored off 8 unanswered points to lead, 74-66, with two and a half minutes left. Bobby Hurdley responded with a 3-pointer, Grant Hill scored on an acrobatic scoop inside, and Marry Clark hit a follow shot to pull Duke to 76-74 with 1:18 to go. Again, Georgia Tech called timeout. When play resumed, Cremins stood to exhalt the sellout crowd of 10,125 fans, which cheered wildly as James Forrest made a free throw, Duke missed a pair of 3-pointers, and Mackey hit three free throws in the final 12 seconds. Clark's 3-pointer at the buzzer was too little, too late. "I think it's definitely an eye-opener for everybody," said Clark, a 6-6 junior. "We can't come into games and expect to win, especially the way we played the first 10 minutes." Duke had suffered a narrow escape early last week at home, rallying in overtime to defeat Oklahoma after losing a 20-point lead. Sunday, in their first major road test of the year, the Blue Devils were again plagued by their opponent's rebounding. That was especially true in the first half, when Georgia Tech had nearly as many offensive rebounds (8) as Duke had total rebounds (10). Duke was led by Grant Hill, who had 8 rebounds and a game-high 29 points. But the Blue Devils got only 6 points and 9 rebounds combined from its starting big men, Antonio Lang and Cherokee Parks. "You can't win just being a perimeter team," Krzyzewski said. Certainly not when your starting guards, Hurdley and Thomas Hill, both seniors, hit just 9 of 30 shots, with only 4 of 16 from 3-point range.



Reggie Lewis went backdoor for a lay-up as the Celtics left Madison Square Garden with a victory.

Whaler Gets His Goals Mixed Up

The Associated Press
It was hard to say which goal hurt the Hartford Whalers more: the one Pat Verbeek scored, or the one he didn't. Verbeek missed on a potential game-tying shot late in the second period, then accidentally back-passed the puck 185 feet into his own net early in the third for the eventual game-winning goal as the Montreal Canadiens beat the Whalers, 7-5, on Sunday night. Verbeek missed a wide-open net on a 2-on-1 break with Patrick Four-

Mahrer Wins Downhill With Slick Run on Ice

The Associated Press
GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN, Germany — Swiss veteran Daniel Mahrer won a men's downhill race Monday for his second World Cup victory on the tough Kandahar course. Peter Rzezhak of Austria was second, while Sunday's winner, Franz Heinzer, another Swiss veteran, finished third. The race was a replacement for a downhill in Val d'Isere, France, that had to be abandoned because of bad weather on Dec. 4. It was moved from Friday to Monday because of mild weather in the German resort. The man who led when the December race was abandoned, A.J. Kitt of the United States, decided to skip Monday's race after crashing Sunday. On an icy, difficult course, Mahrer had a nearly perfect run to clinch his eighth Cup victory with a time of 1 minute, 53.26 seconds. His first victory of the season came in its fourth downhill.

NHL HIGHLIGHTS

In the second period when the Canadiens led, 2-1. Despite being just a few feet out, Verbeek slid the puck wide behind the goal, Andre Racicot. "Players miss easy slam dunks in basketball," Verbeek said. "I just missed that easy slam dunk." Unfortunately for the Whalers, his aim was perfect in the third period. With the Hartford goalie, Mario Gosselin, off during a delayed penalty call, Verbeek tried to center from behind the Montreal net to Murray Crahen. But the puck sailed through the Canadiens' zone untouched, continued down ice and landed dead-center in the empty net. Kirk Muller was credited with his second goal of the night, giving the Canadiens a 6-1 lead. Kings 5, Blackhawks 4: Los Angeles ended a 10-game winless streak as Wayne Gretzky set up Tony Granato's second goal of the game with 7:59 left in the third period in Chicago Stadium. "I decided to play tonight because I felt I could contribute," said Gretzky, who has two goals and four assists in three games since returning from the back surgery that forced him to miss the Kings' first 39 games. "I didn't want to embarrass myself. My timing is a little off, but it will come back in time." The victory, which ended an 0-8-2 slide, was the Kings' first since Dec. 12, and their 800th regular-season victory. Sabres 5, Flames 3: Pat LaFontaine completed a hat trick with the go-ahead goal midway through the third period, and Alexander Mogily added his league-leading 41st goal to power Buffalo to its sixth straight victory. Lightning broke a 3-3 tie when he raced in alone on Mike Vernon and scored at 10:41 of the third period for his 30th goal of the season. The Sabres had tied the score at 7:59 when Mogily, who has an 11-game point-scoring streak, beat Vernon with a backhand while falling to the ice. Flyers 4, Oilers 0: Tommy Soderstrom, a rookie, stopped 29 shots for his first NHL shutout as the Flyers beat Edmonton at the Spectrum in Philadelphia. Philadelphia won its third straight and improved to 5-1-2 in its last eight without Eric Lindros, its star rookie center, who reinjured his left knee in Saturday's 4-3 victory over the New York Rangers. Lindros had fluid drained from the knee Sunday and is listed as day-to-day.

SIDELINES

NBA Timberwolves Change Coaches
MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The Minnesota Timberwolves, with the NBA's second-worst record, fired Jimmy Rodgers as their coach Monday and replaced him on an interim basis with assistant Sidney Lowe. Lowe was the point guard when the team joined the NBA in 1989-90; Rodgers replaced Bill Musselman, fired after the 1990-91 season. The Timberwolves, whose 15-67 record last season was the NBA's worst, were expected to be vastly improved this season after making major personnel moves. Instead, they are 6-23, having lost 16 of their last 18 games, and in that span have beaten only Dallas — at 2-26, the one team with a worse record. John Resigns Watford Soccer Post
LONDON (UPI) — Popular music star Elton John has resigned as a director at the English first division soccer club Watford, virtually ending a 19-year connection with the team, it was announced Monday. John was chairman of the club between May 1976 and August 1990, a period that represented the most successful spell ever in Watford's history, as it rose from the fourth division to the first under the management of Graham Taylor and reached the FA Cup final in 1984, when it lost by 2-0 to Everton. Love Wins PGA's First Tourney
CARLSBAD, California (NYT) — Davis Love III held off a charging Tom Kite to win the PGA Tour's season-opening Infiniti Tournament of Champions by one stroke. While Kite was firing a course record-tying 64 ahead of him Sunday, Love posted a 69 for a total of 16-under par 272 over rain-drenched La Costa Resort and Spa. Paul Azinger, who started the day one stroke behind Love, tied for third with Mark O'Meara at 275. Australian Warmup Gets Chilly
SYDNEY (AP) — Upsets and ailments plagued seeded players at the New South Wales tournament opened Monday, with Mary Joe Fernandez, the No. 3 women's seed, departing the warmup for next week's Australian Open without even taking the court. A week-long bout with the flu forced Fernandez to withdraw from singles, while Helena Sukova retired from her match against Germany's Barbara Rittner after the No. 6 women's seed fell and injured a leg at 5-5 in the third set. Upsets claimed the No. 8 woman, Zina Garrison-Jackson, who lost to Sabine Appelmans of Belgium, 6-4, 7-6(7-3), and the No. 6 men's player, Spain's Sergi Bruguera, who was beaten by Michael Trettub, an Australian qualifier ranked 870th in the world, 6-7 (0-7), 7-6 (7-4), 6-4. For the Record
Clem Galley, 41, who coached the Birmingham Fire to consecutive playoff appearances in the World League of American Football, was named coach at Samford to replace Terry Bowden, who left to become coach at Auburn. (AP) Quotable
Coach Pat Riley after his New York Knicks made 20 turnovers in losing a game: "Right now, you look for the enemy and the enemy is us."

A Big Night for Four Underdogs

The Associated Press
Four games, four surprises. That was the story in the NBA on Sunday night as the unexpected happened over and over and over again. The New York Knicks, with the third-best home record in the league, lost at Madison Square Garden to the Boston Celtics 100-97. The Houston Rockets, floundering from a seven-game losing streak, beat the powerful Utah Jazz 97-90. The Los Angeles Clippers, reeling from four straight losses, went into Milwaukee and beat the Bucks 104-99. The Miami Heat, last in the Atlantic Division and trudging through a six-game Western swing, went into The Forum and beat the Los Angeles Lakers, 101-89. None of the outcomes were more surprising than Houston's win over the Jazz. The Rockets held Utah to its lowest point total of the year in winning their first game since Dec. 26.

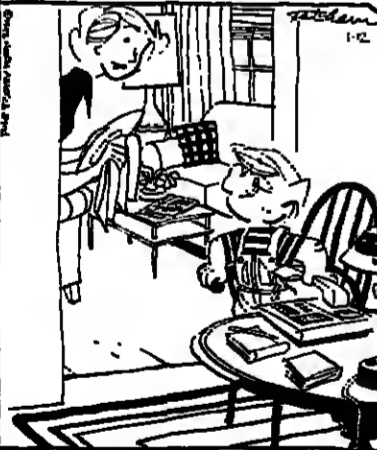
"I'm just happy that that sucker is broken, and I'm proud of the way we did it," said Houston's coach, Rudy Tomjanovich, of the losing streak. "We finally got that gorilla off our backs." Hakeem Olajuwon had 35 points, 13 rebounds, six blocked shots and six assists. Most important was his 17-of-19 free throw shooting, including six in a row down the stretch that sealed the win. "Now we can start over," Olajuwon said. "We can concentrate on winning. We had forgotten what it was like to win. During the losing streak, we would get down the stretch and panic and make mistakes. We didn't do that tonight." Karl Malone, who led Utah with 29 points and 12 rebounds, kept the game close, trading points with Olajuwon until the Rockets pulled away. Utah ended a three-game swing through Texas with one victory and two losses. Celtics 100, Knicks 97: The Knicks came back from a 23-point third quarter deficit only to fall short in the final minute. Rolando Blackman missed a go-

ahead 18-footer with five seconds left, and John Starks missed a long 3-pointer just before the buzzer. Reggie Lewis scored 30 points for the Celtics, who won their fifth straight. "We're playing together right now," Lewis said. "We're communicating out on the floor, helping one another out." The Celtics, in hitting 41 of 83 shots, just missed snapping a string of 23 games in which Knicks opponents shot less than 50 percent from the field. Heat 101, Lakers 89: Miami completed a season sweep of the Lakers, the first by any of the four most recent expansion teams. Miami made 23 of 36 shots in the first half and held a 60-42 lead at intermission. The Lakers used a 13-0 run in the fourth quarter to trim the deficit to 89-82, but could get no closer. Kevin Edwards led the Heat with 25 points and Glen Rice added 22. Clippers 104, Bucks 99: Danny Manning had 24 points and Ken Norman and Stanley Roberts added 17 apiece as the Clippers knocked the Bucks into last place in the Central Division.

Violence Forces Change In India-England Series

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
NEW DEHLI — England's first one-day cricket international against India, which was to be played Saturday, was postponed Monday, and the match moved from Ahmedabad to New Delhi because of the resurgence in Muslim-Hindu rioting. At least 60 people have died in six days of violence in the western city of Ahmedabad. S.S. Sharma, secretary of the Gujarat Cricket Association, said a new date for the match would be announced later. The first one-dayer is now to be played Monday in the northern city of Jaipur, with the second to be played in Chandigarh on Jan. 21. The first Test starts in Calcutta on Jan. 29. In Bombay where the third and last Test match is scheduled to begin Feb. 19, about 160 people have died. The second match is to begin in Madras on Feb. 11. England's last tour of India, in 1984, was disrupted by anti-Sikh riots in many cities following the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi by her Sikh bodyguards. (AFP, AP)

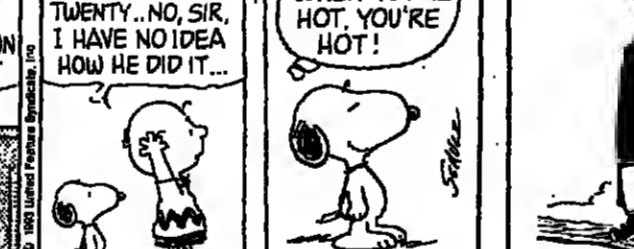
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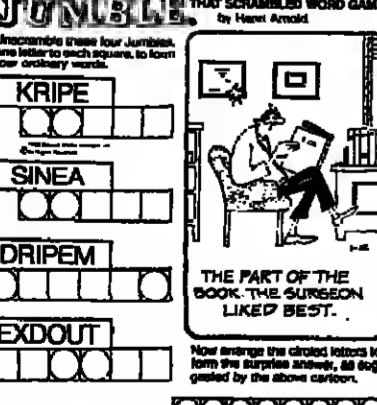
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سكنا من الامل

SPORTS

Dolphins Stuff Red-Hot Chargers Into Deep Freeze



Troy Vincent, breaking a pass to Nate Lewis, also made two game-turning interceptions.

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

MIAMI — Dan Marino sizzled. Stan Humphries fizzled. The Miami Dolphins moved into the AFC championship game of the National Football League's playoffs, the San Diego Chargers went home.

The Dolphins' unheralded defense forced five turnovers and Marino converted three into touchdowns for a 31-0 rout Sunday of the previously red-hot Chargers. That put the AFC East champions into the conference final against the Buffalo Bills, with whom they split their two games this season.

It also kept alive the hopes of the Dolphins' coach, Don Shula, for a seventh trip to the Super Bowl, and stopped San Diego's eight-game winning streak.

The Dolphins, who beat the Bills in Buffalo and lost to them in Miami, will play host to the AFC title game next Sunday. The winner will meet either Dallas or San Francisco in the Super Bowl on Jan. 31.

Bad weather was a factor early in Sunday's contest, but the game plan of Miami's defensive coordinator, Tom Olivadotti, clearly was what posed the most problems for Humphries and, to a degree, the Chargers' highly regarded defense.

"Everybody was talking about San Diego and how physical they are," said Shula. "We wanted them to be talking about us being physical. I think that's what happened."

The Chargers never got untracked offensively, finishing with 70 yards rushing and 140 passing. Miami gained 324 yards on offense with Marino completing 17 of 29 passes for 167 yards and Aaron Craver and Bobby Humphrey gaining 72 and 71 yards on the ground. Rookie Troy Vincent set up two touchdowns with interceptions and Pro Bowl linebacker Bryan Cox's interception led to Marino's third touchdown pass, which gave the Dolphins a 21-0 halftime lead.

Vincent, the left cornerback out of Wisconsin who was the Dol-



Marion Butts, the Chargers' top back, gained a lot of attention but only 25 yards in the game.

phins' top draft pick in 1992, was still suffering the effects of a stomach virus. At halftime, he was given an intravenous saline solution to thwart dehydration.

His first pickoff gave Miami the ball on San Diego's 48. Marino immediately tossed a 20-yard screen pass to Humphrey, and after the Dolphins got to the 1, threw a scoring pass to Tony Paige.

That gave Marino at least one touchdown pass in nine straight playoff games, one behind Ken Stabler of the then-Oakland Raiders. Two drives later, Humphries put a pass up again, and this time Nate Lewis cut it off, then lost it — only to have Vincent come down with the ball on the Chargers' 37.

Marino promptly gunned a 28-yarder to Mark Duper, then got the second touchdown with a nine-yarder to Keith Jackson. It was the first touchdown in seven games for the tight end who joined the Dolphins early in the season as a free agent from the Philadelphia Eagles.

Humphries' third mistake was intercepted by Cox, who returned the football to the San Diego 42. And Jackson soon had a 30-yard scoring strike from Marino.

Peic Stojanovich kicked a 22-yard field goal and Craver scored on a 25-yard run in the fourth quarter when Miami's offense, which had scored only six touchdowns in its previous six games, pushed around the NFL's No. 4 defense.

The success of the offense was especially sweet because the San Diego defense is coached by a former Dolphin assistant, Bill Armstrong, the focus of much of the pregame hype.

"We know Armstrong is a genius as far as defense goes," Duper said. "But we really put a number on them."

Humphries finished with 18 completions in 44 attempts for 140 yards. Eric Bienemy, with 26 yards on four carries, was the Chargers' leading rusher, while Marion Butts gained 25 yards on seven attempts. "If ever there was a total effort, that was it," said Shula, whose Dolphins won the 1972 and '73 Super Bowls. (AP, N.Y.T. WP)

NFL Playoff Picture

First-Round Games

- NFC
WASHINGTON REDSKINS 24, MINNESOTA VIKINGS 7.
PHILADELPHIA EAGLES 36, NEW ORLEANS SAINTS 20.

- AFC
SAN DIEGO CHARGERS 17, KANSAS CITY CHIEFS 0.
BUFFALO BILLS 41, HOUSTON OILERS 38.

Second-Round Games

- NFC
SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS 20, WASHINGTON REDSKINS 13.
DALLAS COWBOYS 34, PHILADELPHIA EAGLES 10.

- AFC
BUFFALO BILLS 24, PITTSBURGH STEELERS 3.
MIAMI DOLPHINS 31, SAN DIEGO CHARGERS 0.

Conference Titles

Sunday, Jan. 17

- AFC Championship: BUFFALO BILLS (13-5) at MIAMI DOLPHINS (12-5).
NFC Championship: DALLAS COWBOYS (14-3) at SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS (15-2).

Super Bowl XXVII

Sunday, Jan. 31
Pasadena, California

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

NBA Standings

Table with columns for Eastern Conference and Western Conference, listing teams and their records.

SOCCER

Table listing soccer results for Dutch First Division, Spanish First Division, and World Cup Results.

SKIING

World Cup Results

Table listing skiing results for Downhill and Slalom events.

HOCKEY

NHL Standings

Table listing NHL standings for the Wales Conference and Adams Division.

TRANSACTIONS

Baseball transactions including Chicago's acquisition of pitcher Steve Carlton and other moves.

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

Table listing Sunday's sports results for various leagues.

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

Table listing NBA standings for Eastern and Western Conferences.

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INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED

Large classified section containing various advertisements for education, real estate, business, and services.

Advertisement for the Oxford Encyclopedia, featuring a 46% discount and a free holiday gift.

ART BUCHWALD

The Hugging President

WASHINGTON — I am finding out things about President-elect Clinton very slowly. I attended a gathering at Hilton Head over the holidays. Once a year some of the finest minds in the United States gather on this East Coast island to solve the problems of the world, and define the future for all mankind. Which brings me to President-elect Clinton. I had a chance to study him at close hand. I was as near to him on one occasion as you are to the newspaper you are now reading. Here's what I found out: Our future president is a Buchwald hugger. He hugs everybody — men, women, children, waiters, busboys, and even the golden arches at McDonald's. Most people side up to him shaking nervously hoping to get nothing more than a handshake. Instead, Clinton sweeps the well-wisher up into his arms and squeezes the breath out of him until the other person cries "Uncle."



Xian Discovery: Women Warriors

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESS — More than 200 pottery figures depicting armored women on horseback have been discovered in a 2,000-year-old imperial tomb outside Xian, the Xinhua news agency reported Monday. The women warriors were among 1,000 pottery figures with wooden arms found at the tomb of Empress Liu Qi (185 to 141 B.C.) of the Western Han Dynasty. The burial pits, 14 kilometers south of Xian, were discovered in 1990 during the construction of a highway. Xinhua said.

Liam Neeson: On Several Waterfronts

By Francis X. Clines

NEW YORK — Liam Neeson was letting a bit of his sublimated Irishness show, worrying like Yeats about his stony epitaph. "Is this what's going to be on my tombstone?" He dated Julia Roberts and Barbara Streisand. The actor, for all his careful study of Hollywood and its narcissistic folkways, was railing pleasantly at how his social and personal life gets misrepresented in what for the last five years has been his hometown, the Hollywood Hills, an ocean and a culture away from Ballymena, County Antrim, the small rural town where he was born in Northern Ireland. His point is well taken, of course. How can the gossip of Tinseltown imply he's just a 6-foot-4 (1.93-meter) Celtic hunk on the evidence of a few celebrity dates and friendships, when Neeson is in the midst of a more than average run of acting, recharging himself in what he talks of as his ancient craft of itinerant pretenders and vagabond make-believers. Just his sort of people, he says thankfully. Neeson is also a big handsome man with a memorable look of self-doubt on his broad face. This is a casting quality that seems to pass as easily for urban angst, as in one of the confused-lower roles that he played in Woody Allen's "Husbands and Wives," or even self-comedy, as in his part as a Kansas sheriff in Steve Martin's new film, "Leap of Faith."



After several movie roles, Liam Neeson returned to the stage with Natasha Richardson in "Anna Christie."

actor, a competent actor or not — then you'll be the flavor. They'll send you scripts and they'll evolve films around you. "Nowadays, if you've got a ponytail and a nice Armani suit and the girl of the gab you can make it in Hollywood," he says, mourning the old days he imagines when there was at least a studio craft system. "But I'd love to be in a bit film," he has to admit. "And then I'll decide the life after that." Thus far, Neeson carefully measures his journeyman's strivings in 15 films across five years, incidentally describing a Hollywood that is strange and ingrown and too seem just over the rise from Ballymena. Neeson, his voice low and sardonic, makes the Hollywood thicket seem at least as real and foggy as O'Neill's waterfront. "It will be interesting after this play to see how long I can take it back there," says the actor, whose experience is grounded in the Irish and English stage. "I mean, Hollywood is the center of the English-speaking cinema. That's where the work is. It's not in London and it's certainly

not in Ireland," says Neeson, who took a flier from those workplaces in 1987 and gambled on cracking the movies, arriving in Los Angeles, he recalls, with just five weeks' rent and a resolve not to be narrowly typecast as a boy-off the boat. "I told these guys: 'Please don't say I'm an Irish actor,'" he recalls of the agents he hired. "I'm an actor. An actor who wants to audition for parts for an actor my age." About "Leap of Faith," to be released in the United States on Feb. 26, and his role of almost inarticulate pathos demanding the twisted-body acting of a Lon Chaney, he says he is pleased — as much for the movie's lean economics as its artistic goals. "I'm very proud of that — made for \$2.4 million when the average Hollywood film costs \$25 million," he stresses. Less certainly, he adds about the film directed by John Madden: "I'm scared to say it's my best work, but I feel the role suits me and I suit the role." Neeson says O'Neill reminds him of some of the O'Casey and other Irish masterworks he did at the Abbey Theatre in Dublin. "A poetic construction," he says.

"You can really go for this stuff. It's not like Stoppard, where you play with words or everybody hides emotions through wonderfully odd sentences. This guy O'Neill goes straight for it. The play is unbelievably passionate and everybody bares their soul," he says about the rehearsals, pleased at the chance to work with Natasha Richardson, who talked him into playing Mat Burke, the broken-hearted coal stoker. So the O'Neill sounds as though it will do as a breather, even if it may not be the real-life struggle of Hollywood. "In the early days of rehearsing, I was seeing how far I could go. I was far too theatrical. But the play holds you up. Twelve hours of rehearsals a day and you still do two more at the pub later talking about it." He stops for a kind of epiphany worthy of a tombstone in Hollywood, not Ballymena. "Sometimes I'm sitting out there in L.A. by my pool and it's 85 degrees and I suddenly think, 'I'm lonesome.' And then I take a fresh look about me, and I say, 'Stuff it, I'm doing all right here — I could be digging ditches back in Ireland.'"

PEOPLE

When Is a French Film Not a French Film?

Cultural imperialism: The sequel. The French Academy of Cinematographic Art and Technology has set off a brouhaha by barring foreign-language films from contention for its annual César awards — the French equivalent of the Oscars. Jean-Jacques Annaud and Claude Berri, two of France's leading filmmakers, resigned from the academy, saying the decision was shortsighted in an age when audiences were increasingly clamoring for films made in English. Some of 1992's top films involving French directors, actors or money were made in English, including Annaud's "The Lover," Ridley Scott's "Damage" and Louis Scott's "1492: Conquest of Paradise" starring Gérard Philipe. They can be in contention only for the César for best foreign film.

Princess Diana has made Prince Charles clear out his belongings from Kensington Palace, their London home until their separation last month, the British tabs say. "Throne Out," the Daily Mirror clipped in a front-page report that the princess wanted all traces of her estranged husband removed from the palace.

Friends and admirers gathered at the Opera Garnier in Paris on Monday to pay tribute to Rudolph Nureyev, who died Wednesday at the age of 54. Fans laid flowers at the foot of a life-size photograph of the ballet star. His funeral will be at the Opera on Tuesday.

It looks like a June wedding for Crown Prince Naruhito of Japan and his fiancée, Masako Owada. Kyodo News Service reports the 32-year-old heir to the imperial throne plans to marry on June 3, but the palace has not confirmed that.

Frank Sinatra is this year's recipient of the Palm Springs International Film Festival's Golden Palm Award, which he received at a dinner attended by his show business friends. Last year's honoree, James Stewart, presented the award.

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WEATHER

Weather forecast tables for Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America, including high/low temperatures and precipitation chances.

Weather forecast table for North America, including high/low temperatures and precipitation chances for various cities.

CROSSWORD

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words. Includes a solution to the puzzle from Jan. 11.

Chess

Chess puzzle featuring a board diagram and a list of moves for White and Black pieces.

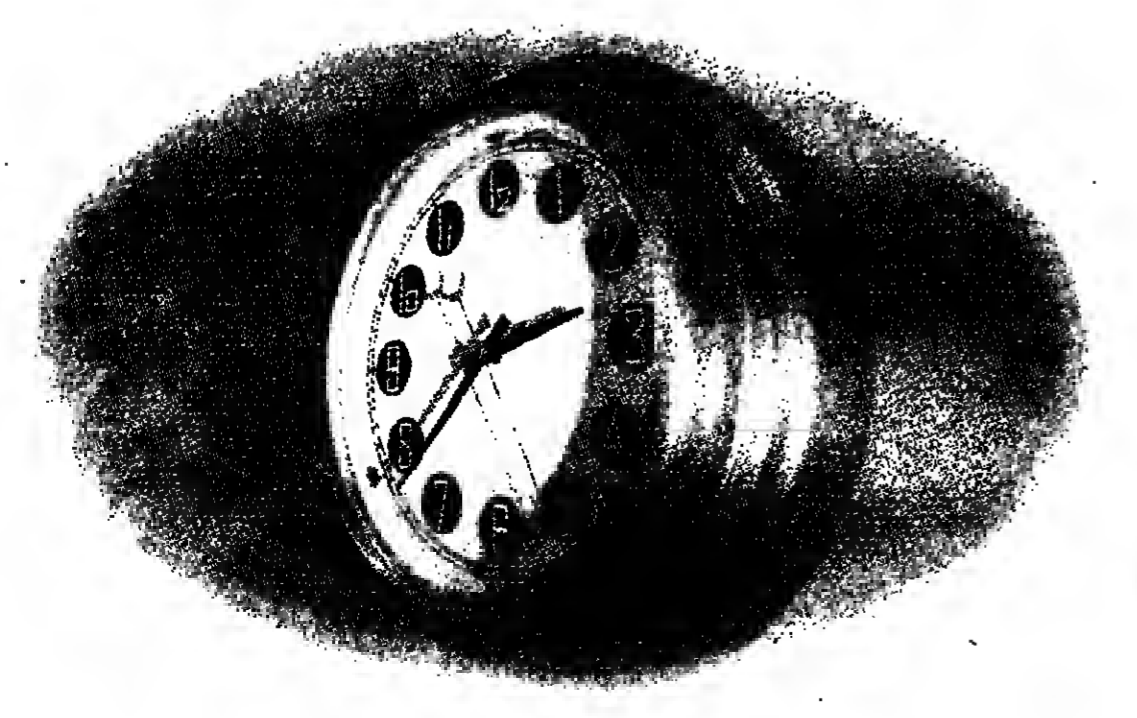
BOOKS

HOROWITZ: His Life and Music. By Harold C. Schonberg. 427 pages. \$27.50. Simon and Schuster. Reviewed by Harvey Sachs. VLADIMIR Horowitz, who died three years ago at 86, was a 20th-century pianist with a 19th-century attitude toward his work. A performing musician, he once said, "may sit down and play one passage one way and then plays an exaggerated next, but in any event, he must do something with the music."

By Robert Byrne. ILYA Gurevich, an international master from Worcester, Massachusetts, found himself in a desperate position in his game with Walter Browne, a Berkeley grandmaster, in the second round of the United States Championship in Durango, Colorado. The action took place on December 3, 1992. The Exchange Variation against the Gruenfeld Defense, 4 d4 N54 Nc3 etc., is currently the most popular method for White; it heightens the hypermodern conflict between the white pawn center and the black counterattacks against it.

from this with 14...e5 and proved satisfactory for Black. But this time Gurevich apparently wanted something more aggressive and chose 12...Rd8?!. Brown pounced upon it at once with a powerful new move, 13 Qb3! after 13...e5 14 d5! Nc5 15 de Nc4 16 of Kh8 17 Qx4, what did Gurevich have that compensated him for the loss of two pawns? After 21 Kf2, Gurevich had no counterattack at all, and in a few moves, with 23 Ba4, he was ready to repulse 23...Bx4 by 24 Qd5 Qd5 25 Rd5 Rb2 26 Nf4! with a decisive threat of 27 Ne6.

queen off on the diagonal by playing 29 Rg5! and after 29...Be3 he struck a smashing blow with 30 Ng6! After 30...hg 31 Rg6 there was no defense by 31...Kh7 because of 32



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